

# CIA Lent Area Police A James Bond Touch

## Fairfax Down on List for a Mine Detector — But Why?

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The CIA in years past has supplied area police departments, as well as others across the country, with exotic electronic gear used for bugging and surveillance, according to documents obtained by The Star.

Among departments receiving such equipment, presumably for use in connection with criminal investigations under way at the time, were those in the District and

in Fairfax, Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties.

Fairfax in 1971 borrowed a mine detector — why, the CIA documents do not explain.

Other jurisdictions favored included New York City and San Francisco.

In some cases, the papers show, the equipment has not been returned to the CIA and no effort has been made to recover it.

The CIA has been forbidden by law since 1973 to deal with local police

across the country and the documents show no loans to area police since March of that year.

THE DOCUMENTS, released by the CIA after a six-month review of a Freedom of Information Act request, show that CIA bugging and anti-bugging equipment often was sought not only by police forces but by federal agencies as well.

Security officers of some federal agencies feel the CIA, which does not face the constraints of a publicly published and defined budget, is an easy touch for indefinite loans of sophisticated equipment; the documents and interviews indicate.

The documents contain details of the equipment loans made by the CIA to local police departments that were mentioned in the Rockefeller commission report on CIA activities.

They also show that local police frequently consulted the CIA about what kinds of bugging equipment to buy.

Deletions in the documents often prevent exact identification of the equipment mentioned, but the type of equipment generally was not censored by the CIA before it released the documents.

AMONG THE departments and agencies which obtained fancy equipment, including receivers, decoders and recorders or portable X-ray units, from CIA were the Departments of Transportation and State, as well as the United States Information Agency and the Secret Service.

Other agencies procuring equipment from CIA included the Post Office, the Atomic Energy Commission, the Army, the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, the Internal Revenue Service and the National Security Agency.

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